

REMARKS

Claims 11-20 and 25-31 are pending in the application. Claims 11-16, 18-20, and 25-26 have been rejected. Claims 17 and 27-31 have been objected to. Claims 11-15 and 25-26 have been canceled. Claims 16 and 27 have been amended. Therefore, Claims 16-20 and 27-31 are currently pending in the Application. Reconsideration of the Application based on the remaining claims as amended and arguments submitted below is respectfully requested.

Drawings

The Applicant acknowledges the drawings were received on August 12, 2005 and thereafter accepted by the Examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant acknowledges that the allowability of Claims 11-15, 25, and 26 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered references cited in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected Claims 12-16 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph indicating that the claims "recite[] the limitation 'the bank controller' in the preamble. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in these claims." In response the Applicant has canceled Claims 12-15 and amended Claim 16 to cure the insufficient antecedent basis. As Claims 18-20 are dependent on Claim 16, no further action is necessary to cure Claims 18-20. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 16 and 18-20 under § 112 be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph indicating that the claim “recites the limitation ‘the system’, ‘the system module connectors’ and ‘the system modules’ in the limitations a, b, c and d. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in this claim.” Although Claim 25 has been canceled, Claim 27 incorporates all of the limitations found in Claim 25. Accordingly Claim 27 has been amended to overcome the rejection as follows:

1. In part a, amended “the system modules” to “the removable system modules” finding an antecedent basis in part a;
2. In part b, amended “the system module connectors” to “system module connectors;”
3. In part c, amended “the system modules” to “the removable system modules” finding an antecedent basis in part a;
4. In part c, amended “the system” to “the removable system modules” finding an antecedent basis in part a;
5. In part d, amended “the system” to “the modular system” finding antecedent support in the preamble;
6. In part d, amended “system modules” to “removable system modules” finding an antecedent basis in part a; and
7. In part e, amended “system modules” to “removable system modules” finding an antecedent basis in part a.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 25, now embodied in Claim 27, under § 112 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11-15 and 25-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Papa, Lee, Fletcher, Borneman, and Bennett references. In response, the applicant has canceled Claims 11-15 and 25-26. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Patent Examiner indicates that Claims 16-20 and 27-31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. In response the Applicant has amended Claim 16 to include all of the limitations in Claim 11, which is the base claims for Claim 16, and Claims 12-15, which are the intervening claims between Claim 11 and Claim 16. In addition, the applicant has amended Claim 27 to include all of the limitations in Claim 25, which is the base claim for Claim 27, and Claim 26, which is the only intervening claim between Claims 25 and Claim 27. As a result, Claims 16 and 27 are now allowable.

Claims 17-20 are dependent claims that depend on amended Claim 16 and include all of the limitations of that claim. Because Claim 16 is now allowable, Claims 17-20 are now also allowable. Similarly, Claims 28-31 are dependent claims that depend on amended Claim 27 and include all of the limitations of that claim. Thus, these claims are now allowable as well.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicant petitions the Commissioner to extend the time for responding to the January 30, 2006, Office Action for 2 months

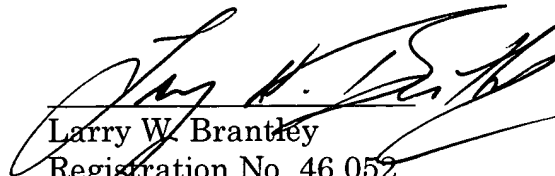
from April 30, 2006, to June 30, 2006. Applicant encloses herewith a check in the amount of \$450 made payable to the Director of the USPTO for the petition fee.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this Response to Deposit Account 23-0035.

Conclusion

For all of the reasons set forth above it is respectfully submitted that Claims 16-20 and 27-31 as amended are all in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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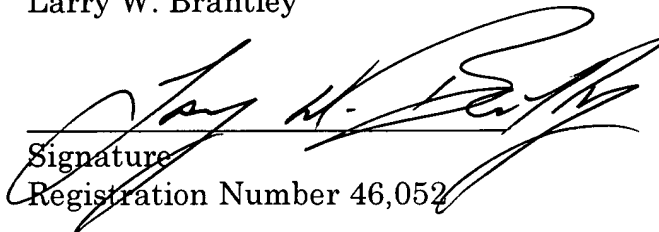
CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Response and Amendment in Application Serial No.09/834,988 having a filing date of April 13, 2001 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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on June 30, 2006.

Larry W. Brantley


Signature
Registration Number 46,052

June 30, 2006
Date